

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1805

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ACTION STR

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SUBJECT QR CONSULTATIONS WITH NIGERIA

REF: STATE 11607

1. SUMMARY: BRIEF CLARIFICATION SESSION HELD WITH NIGERIA WITH RESPECT TO QR'S NOTIFIED US UNDER MTN QR SUBGROUP PROCEDURES. NIGERIAN DEL BASICALLY UNINFORMED ON EXISTING NIGERIAN QR SITUATION AND WILL REQUEST FURTHER INFORMATION FROM CAPITAL. NIGERIAN DEL REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S FIRM OPPOSITION TO IDEA OF RECIPROCITY, ESPECIALLY IN BILATERAL SENSE, BUT MIGHT YET CONSIDER CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

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2. QR CONSULTATION HELD WITH NIGERIA ON JULY 27, 1976.

US DEL (WALLAR, SWAIN) STATED THAT PURPOSE OF CONSULTATION WAS TO HAVE INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN ORDER TO BETTER UNDERSTAND NATURE OF EXISTING QR'S. NIGERIAN DEL (ADEWAKUN) BASICALLY UNINFORMED OF NIGERIAN SITUATION AND ONLY RECENTLY RECEIVED APRIL OFFICIAL GAZETTE WITH REVISED QR REGIME (REFTEL). US ASKED IF NIGERIAN DEL COULD GAIN SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING DURATION AND JUSTIFICATION FOR RESTRICTIONS ON PRODUCTS CONTAINED IN US NOTIFICATION. NIGERIAN DEL LAMENTED THAT OBTAINING RESPONSE FROM LAGOS ON THESE QUESTIONS DIFFICULT, ESPECIALLY SINCE US SEEKING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LDC'S IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP HAS MADE SOME NIGERIAN OFFICIALS LOSE INTEREST IN NEGOTIATIONS. FURTHER DISCUSSION ON ITEMS NOTIFIED WAS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) LIVE POULTRY - NIGERIA QUERIED WHETHER US TRADE INTEREST IS IN DAO-OLD CHICKS FOR BREEDING AND NOTED THAT THESE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM LIVE POULTRY EMBARGO. US RESPONDED THAT OUR INTEREST WAS IN ALL LIVE POULTRY. (US DEL LATER VERIFIED THAT ALL US EXPORTS TO NIGERIA OF LIVE POULTRY IN CY 1972 TO 1974 WERE BABY CHICKS, BREEDING STOCK, AND WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON CLARIFICATION AS TO PARTICULAR LIVE POULTRY OF INTEREST TO US.)

(B) HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS OF WOOD - NIGERIAN DEL SPECULATED THAT THIS EMBARGO EXISTED FOR PROTECTION OF LARGE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY

(C) USED CLOTHING - NIGERIAN DEL HAD NO COMMENT ON THIS EMBARGO.

(D) ITEMS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIVE LICENSING - ADEWAKUN INDICATED THAT SOME OF THE ITEMS NOTIFIED BY THE US IN THIS CATEGORY (BICYCLE TIRES AND TUBES AND CERTAIN PAPER PRODUCTS (KRAFT PAPER, PAPER BOARD AND CARDBOARD, AND DUPLICATION PAPER)) WERE PRODUCED BY INCREASINGLY EFFICIENT NIGERIAN INDUSTRY AND THAT LICENSING SYSTEM WAS DESIGNED TO AFFORD PROTECTION TO THESE GROWING FIRMS. NIGERIAN DEL HAD NO INFORMATION TO OFFER WITH RESPECT TO LICENSING APPLIED TO PACKAGING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTAINERS AND STOCKFICH.

3. NIGERIAN DEL COULD OFFER NO PRECISE GATT JUSTIFICATION FOR THESE RESTRICTIONS AND INDICATED THAT THE RESTRICTIONS HAD NOT BEEN NOTIFIED TO GATT DUE TO SMALLNESS OF THE NIGERIAN GENEVA DELEGATION. ADEWAKUN NOTED THAT THESE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME AND THAT NIGERIAN IMPORT REGIME IS FORMULATED ON A PRAG-

MATIC BASIS.

4. ALTHOUGH NIGERIA HAS NOT SUBMITTED QR NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE QR SUBGROUP PROCEDURE THEY HAVE NOTIFIED SOME NTM'S IN THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXERCISE. NIGERIA WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE QUOTA ON GROUND NUTS AND GROUND NUT OIL. US DEL INDICATED THAT NO RESTRICTIONS EXIST ON PEANUT OIL AND THAT PEANUTS ARE SUBJECT TO QUOTAS UNDER SECTION 22 OF THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT. US EXPLAINED HOW DOMESTIC PEANUT PROGRAM OPERATES AND NOTED THAT QUOTA IS CONSISTENT WITH GATT ARTICLE XI:2 AND IN ADDITION IS SUBJECT TO US GATT WAIVER.

5. IN WIDE-RANGING AND DISJOINTED CONVERSATION COVERING TROPICAL PRODUCTS, TARIFFS AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES, ADEWAKUN INDICATED THAT NIGERIA IS OPPOSED TO RECIPROCITY IN BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING REQUESTS AND OFFERS. HOWEVER, ADEWAKIN IS TRYING TO SELL IDEA TO HIS AUTHORITIES THAT NIGERIA COULD MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OVERALL NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATING THAT CONTRIBUTION IS PAYMENT TO COUNTRY X FOR CONCESSION Y. IN RESPONSE TO US DEL QUERY, NIGERIA INDICATED A MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO QR'S MIGHT HELP THEM IN AVOIDING THEIR DIFFICULTIES WITH ANY BILATERAL/RECIPROCITY APPROACH. WALKER

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